BULLETIN OF THE

POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets Every 2nd & 4th Friday at St. James Clubroom, 2424 N. Mango, Chicago, Ill.

Issue No. 292 **Price 25c** **September, 1971**

COPERNICUS U.S. STAMP DESIGN CONTEST

On the approaching 500th anniversary of the birth of Copernicus in 1973, the Philatelic Committee of the Polish-American Congress will hold a design contest for a proposed U.S. commemorative to honor this event. The Contest Committee, comprised mostly of members of the Polonus Philatelic Society, worked out the rules and details of the contest and officially released this announcement.

Prize winning designs will be made available to the United States Postal Service for selection as an appropriate design of the stamp for this event.

The contest is open to all interested individuals and groups. The only requirement is compliance with the rules and regulations set forth by the Philatelic Committee.

A total of $2,250.00 in cash and 25 trophies will be awarded.

Grand Prize	$1,000.00
First Prize	500.00
Second Prize	250.00
Third Prize	100.00

Sixteen individual cash prizes of $25.00 each for runner up and 25 special commendation trophies will also be given.

Theme

COPERNICUS'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE WORLD. All entries must reflect this broad motif. The contribution of Copernicus toward the growing interdependence of nations in terms of space theory and discovery based on his studies and lifework.

Eligibility

Members and/or employees of the Polish-American Congress are not eligible.

Judges

A panel of judges will be appointed by the President of the Polish-American Congress. The decision of the judges will be final. This competition is subject to all local state and federal regulations.

How To Enter

Write a letter stating your wish to enter the contest. Address it to the Philatelic Committee of the Polish American Congress, 1200 North Ashland Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60622 USA. Enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope please. An official entry form with complete rules and instructions will be sent to you in your return envelope. All entries must be submitted to the comittee no later than March 31, 1972.

Contest Committee

The Committee consists of: Napoleon C. Zbyszewski, Chairman; Thomas J. Gobby, Executive Secretary;

Aloysius Mazewski, Jr., Asst. Secretary; Myron E. Steczynski, Head of the Special Advisory Panel whose members are John C. Hajduk, Chester A. Schafer, Roman Burkiewicz, George Jezioranski and Zdzislaw Wagrowski. Six of the above mentioned eight names are Polonus members.

CANADIAN STAMP SHOW

A circle of Polish Philatelists in Toronto, Ont., Canada will hold their first exhibition of Polish Philately on Sunday, November 7, 1971 in Polish National Hall located at 1987 Queen Street West.

The initiators, all members of Polonus Philatelic Society hope that this exhibition will stimulate interest on Polish Philately in their region. The exhibition is non-competitive, exhibitors must be residents of Ontario.

During the exhibition slogan cancelled cachets showing Poland's No. 1 Stamp, as also a set of two souvenir sheets showing Polish First Semi-Official Air Stamps of 1921 will be sold.

The cover price 35¢ or 3 for $1.00; souvenir sheets — 50¢ for a set.

Prepaid mail orders will be answered by the Exhibition Chairman M. Lubinski, 8 Attercliff Court, Rexdale, Ontario, Canada. Self-addressed envelopes appreciated.

STAMP SCHOOL FOR CHICAGO AREA COLLECTORS

Chicagoland area collectors are invited to attend a school on the "Essentials of Stamp Collection." In the interest of developing new collectors and assist beginner collectors, the Austin Philatelic Club is sponsoring classes on Thursday evenings at 8:00 p.m. at the Riis Park Fieldhouse, 6100 W. Fullerton Avenue in Chicago. It is open to anyone interested in stamp collecting and there is no charge for attending the classes. Classes have already begun as of September 9th, and will continue weekly thru October 14th, 1971.

GOOD TURNOUT AT POLONUS PICNIC

It was cloudy and grey in Chicago on August 15th but the sun was shining at Aquilla Lodge in Powers Lake, Wisconsin. Over 100 people turned out for the Annual Polonus Picnic. Dr. and Mrs. Leon Kozakiewicz were most amiable hosts, and the clear water of Powers Lake was most refreshing for the b a t h e r s. Those attending had a cookout of hot dogs, sausage, hamburgers and steaks. While children enjoyed the kiddie playground, the grownups played volleyball, sunned themselves by the lake, or just sat around at the picnic tables renewing old acquaintances or making new ones.

The Austin Philatelic Club was invited to attend this year and despite the uncertain weather, fifteen members showed up. They must have had a good time as after it was all over, their feeling was, "Let's have more such affairs."

At five o'clock that afternoon the good Doctor began barbecuing some forty pounds of Polish sausage and passing it out to all present. Polonus is ever grateful for the hospitality of Dr. and Mrs. Leon Kozakiewicz.

NEW MEMBERS

James Mazepa
1215 E. Hyde Park Blvd.
Apt. 403
Chicago, Ill. 60615

John Winstanley
701 Don Mills Rd., Apt. 607
Don Mills, Toronto
Ont., Canada

DROPPED FROM MEMBERSHIP

Hilmar Gross	John Witkowski
Henry Klos	Joseph Seliga
Peter Kozuch	Mickey Sklarz
Henry Kufel	Ronald Wasilewski
Kenneth Phillips	Joseph Wiloch
E. Pruszynski	Marek Zawadzki
John F. Szuch	Clemens Urbanski

THE HELA STAMP

By JOSEPH A. KUJDA

In the Polish catalog "Ilustrowany Katalog Znaczkow Polskich 1860-1956," printed in 1957, there is mention of the German U-Boat stamp known to collectors as the "Hela" stamp. It seems unlikely that a German Fieldpost issue would be listed in a Polish catalog, and yet, it is.

After the Blitzkrieg on Poland was completed, the Hitler regime "dissolved" the country known as Poland and instituted a puppet area known as the General Gouvernement under the control of the notorious lawyer Hans Frank. The General Gouvernement was composed of the districts of Cracow, Lemberg, Lublin, Radom, and Warsaw. The remaining districts of Poland were incorporated into the German Reich: Polish Upper Silesia, Warthegau (Poznan to Lodz), the Olsa Area (Austrian Silesia), Zichenau, and the Danzig Corridor. It is in the Danzig Corridor that the Hel peninsula is located and the area that the "Hela" stamp was used.

In March of 1945, when this stamp was issued, the once great German war machine was rapidly dissolving. Cut off from the mainland of the Reich and stranded on the Hel peninsula was the German 31st Infantry Division. All letters, parcels, and other correspondence posted by the 31st Division were to bear the U-Boat stamp.

B. Paetsch of Danzig (Gdansk) was called upon to design the stamp. The ungummed stamp, printed in blue color, shows a German submarine surfacing while the stamp bears the inscriptions "Deutsche-Feldpost" and "durch U-Boat." The submarine is appropriately the main design of the stamp because it was expected that submarines would have to be used to transport the outgoing mail from the Hel peninsula.



Submarines, however, were not to be used. Up to Germany's surrender surface ships continued to be in contact so that submarines were never really needed. There are surface covers known, posted through Denmark to Germany, bearing this stamp. On this type of mail the stamps were not needed. A genuine cover or parcel, however, posted with this stamp from the Hel peninsula is extremely rare.

A total of 150,000 copies were printed by the Corps Map Printing Unit on the Hel peninsula. Offset printing was used as the printing method. Offset printing, which seems very complicated to be used in such a trying time, consisted in transferring or "offsetting" the design from the printing plates to a rubber roller, and then from the roller to the paper.

In what category would one classify this stamp is left to the collector.

Michel, the German catalog, lists this as a permit or franchise stamp for troops cut off from the mainland. A franchise stamp is one issued and given by the government to certain organizations to permit them to send their mail free. In this case it was given to the 31st Infantry Division to control the mail they posted. It had no imprinted value.

The Polish catalog lists this stamp as a Field Post issue to be used by the German defenders on the Hel peninsula. Although, as stated before, the Hel peninsula was part of Poland before the invasion, it was not part of the General Gouvernement because the Hel peninsula was incorporated into the Reich. In essence, the stamp was being used in Germany.

The last question to answer is whether or not this stamp belongs in a Poland collection. My own opinion is that this stamp should be included in a specialized General Government collection. This stamp has great historical significance, depicting the plight of the conquerors of Poland as they faced their final hours.

STAMP MARKET TIPS

by John G. Ross

Since the end of WW II stamp issuance has been heavy; more have been issued by Poland than by the U.S.A., the latter with all its heavy demand. Large quantities are sent to the U.S.A. which probably explains why some of these stamps sell for far less here than they do in Europe. A good example is **Scott B102-103,** two miniature sheets issued in 1955 to commemorate the **6th Polish Philatelic Exhibition.** Quantity was 125,600 sets sold, which is not much as most Polish stamps are printed in quantities of several millions. Scott lists this pair at $4.00; retail should be about $3.00. Prices in Europe are much higher, and the lowest advertised price I can find is 25 marks or about $7.00 U.S. You might do well by finding and buying this pair of sheets.

—Reprinted from "STAMPS"

NEW MEMBER

W. L. Marple
2906 Willa Drive
St. Joseph, Mich. 49085

NEW ISSUES

50th Anniversary of Third Silesian Uprising

Issued May 3, 1971 on the 50th anniversary of the Third Silesian Uprising of 1921 against the Germans. The 60 groszy stamp shows an old photo of the Silesian insurrectionists and on the tablet is the monument erected to their memory in Katowice. Rotogravure printed at P. W. P. W. Warsaw on chalky paper in sheets of 15 stamps. Designed by Jerzy Walter Brzoza. Quantity issued: 6,000,000.

25th Anniversary of UNICEF

A set of eight stamps were issued on May 20, 1971 on the 25th anniversary of the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund.

20 gr. — Peacock on Lawn — Dorota, age 4. 6,500,000 issued.
40 gr. — Our Army — Agnieszka, age 7. 6,500,000 issued.
60 gr. — Lady Spring — Ela, age 7. 6,500,000 issued.
2.00 zl. — Cat with Ball — Maryla, age 6. 2,500,000 issued.
2.50 zl. — Flowers — Ela, age 7. 1,500,000 issued.
3.40 zl. — Friendship — Basia, age 5 2,500,000 issued.
5.50 zl. — Clown — Tomek, age 10. 1,000,000 issued.
7.00 zl. — Unknown Planet — Dorota, age 12. 1,000,000 issued.

Rotogravure printed by P.W.P.W. Warsaw on chalky paper in sheets of 50. Designed by Helena Matuszewska

Poznan International Fair

To mark the occasion of the 40th Poznan International Fair, the postal authorities put in circulation a 60 gr. value with the emblem of the fair. Issued in June, 1971, rotogravure printed on chalky paper in sheets of 30 stamps by P.W.P.W. Warsaw in a quantity of 8,000,000. Designed by H. Cylinski.

(Continued on page 292-7)

An Elaborate Forgery of the 1st Polish Corps Overprint on a Russian Stamp

By STANLEY KRONENBERG

The overprints on Russian stamps made by the postal authority of the 1st Polish Corps (also called the Corps of General Dowbor Musnicki) during World War I are of great historic interest. Overprints on some denominations are very rare and as usual in such cases forgeries abound.

Generally the forgeries of the first issue are not difficult to detect. Original overprints are made lithographically but some forgeries are overprinted typographically. On lithographically forged overprints the feet of the eagle are positioned symmetrically while in the genuine overprints the right foot sticks out further. Many forged overprints are made on used stamps with Russian or unreadable cancellations and in such cases one can see that the overprint is on top of the cancellation.

Here a carefully made forgery is described which does not belong in any of the above categories and could fool initially even somebody who is well acquainted with these overprints. This forged overprint is on the Russian stamp of 25 kop. (Ruch No. W10, Michel No. 8). 2,000 original overprints were made on this denomination. The original overprints exist in five types: I, II, IIIA, IIIB, IIIC corresponding to the 5 columns of the subassembly of 5x5 of the overprint form of 10x10 as described e.g. in ref. 1. Apparently the maker of this lithographic forgery tried to imitate the type IIIB which does not show a protruding spot on the right side of the neck of the eagle as other types do. The cut of each individual letter agrees well with the original overprint and the details of the eagle are made quite well within the limitations of the lithographic printing technique. The characteristics of the ink are visually undistinguishable from the original.

The revelation that this is a forgery comes after one starts making careful measurements to establish the positions of the different parts of the overprint in relation to each other and comparing them with a genuine overprint. Some of the results are shown in table I, the dimensions given in this table are defined in Fig. 1.

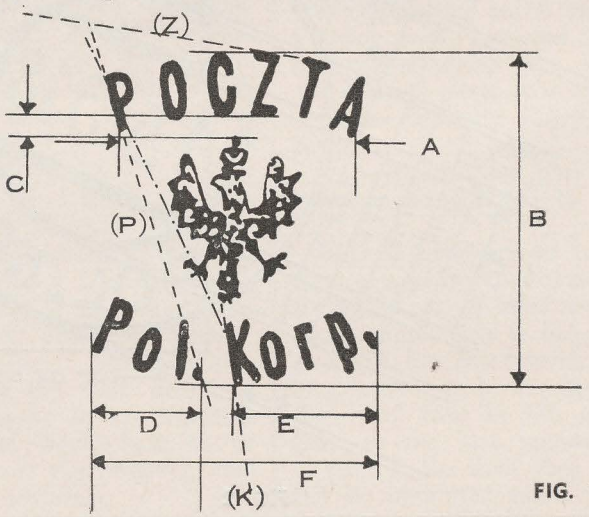


FIG. 1

TABLE 1.
(All dimensions are in mm.)

Dimension	Genuine Overprint Type IIIB	Forgery
A	11.9	11.3
B	16.3	15.9
C	1.0	1.1
D	5.65	5.4
E	7.3	6.9
F	14.4	13.9

The top line of "Z" in the genuine overprint is slanted, in the forgery it is horizontal. The extension of the vertical line of "P" in "POCZTA" touches on the right side the period after "POL" in the genuine overprints and crosses the "K" in the forgery. The orientation of the eagle's tail in respect to the "K" in "Korp." is the same as in the original overprint.

This forgery is cancelled with a forged cancellation in brown ink. The overprinting was done on a mint stamp and the cancellation was applied later. Fig. 2 shows the drawing of the visible fragment of this cancellation and some of its dimensions in mm. According to the width of its date bridge this cancellation may be an unsuccessful attempt to reproduce the cancellation used in Borbujst (Ref. 2). The tops of "R" and "P" in "KORP" are slanted down, the slanted line of "R" is thick and very long. This forged cancellation resembles the one reported by M. Perzynski (Ref. 3) but differs from it significantly.

I am indebted to Mr. Joseph Bieniecki who gave me this stamp.

Ref. 1 Polskie znaki pocztowe, Vol. IV, Warsaw 1966, Agencja Wydawnicza "RUCH" p. 80.

Ref. 2 Same, p. 88.

Ref. 3 Maciej Perzynski, "Forgeries of Cancellations of the 1st Polish Corps of Dowbor Musnicki" "Filatelista" Nr. 11 (302) year XV, Warsaw, June 1, 1968, p. 239. (in Polish).

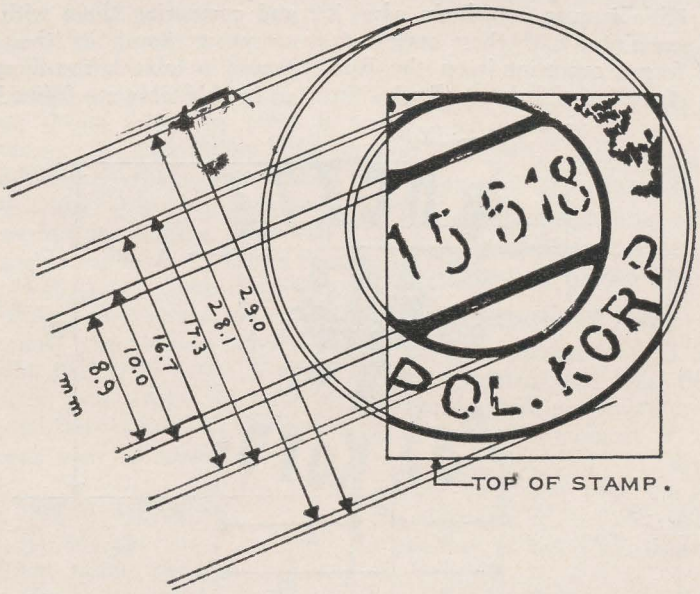


FIG. 2

NEW ISSUES (Continued)

On the Copernican Trail

Four stamps issued as a tourist series, carrying views of towns in which Nicholas Copernicus lived and worked, were issued June 1, 1971.

40 gr. Torun — The house in which Copernicus was born on February 19, 1473. On the tablet is a portrait of Copernicus from a painting by J. Matejko.

60 gr. Cracow — Collegium Maius. Copernicus started his studies here in 1491 at the Dept. of Liberal Arts, Cracow Academy. On the tablet is a page from "Euclid's Geometry" — a text-book of Copernicus.

2.50 zl. Olsztyn — Castle where he lived for several years. He was the main leader of the resistance during the war against the Teutonic Knights. He fortified the town and thanks to this saved it from destruction. In 1526 he formulated his treatise, "How to Mint Money." On the tablet is the astrolabe.

4 zl. Frombork — Cathedral where he was settled in 1512 and conducted his astronomical observations writing his final text, "De Revolutionibus Orbium Coelestium." He died here in 1543. On the tablet is a drawing of the heliocentricsystem.

Offset printed at P.W.P.W. Warsaw on chalky paper in sheets of 15 stamps. Designed by A. Heidrich. Quantities issued:

40 gr. — 8,000,000
60 gr. — 8,000,000
2.50 zl. — 2,500,000
4.00 zl. — 2,000,000.

Paper Cut-Outs (Wycinanki)

As part of the series popularizing Polish Folk Art a set of five stamps were issued July 12, 1971 showing "Wycinanki" of various districts of



Paper Cut-Outs ("Wycinanki") Issue

Cut courtesy of LINN'S STAMP NEWS



The Workers In Sculpture Series

Cut courtesy of LINN'S STAMP NEWS

Poland, These paper cut-outs, first made their appearance in the 19th century and were used for decoration of walls, windows and shelves of the peasant's house. Values are 20 gr., 40 gr., 60 gr., 1.15 zl. and 1.35 zl.

Rotogravure, steel engraved and typograph printed on common paper in sheets of 100 by P.W.P.W. Warsaw. Designed by J. Jaworowski. Quantities are to be repeated multi-million printings.

Workers

The Postal authorities issued a series of four stamps on July 21, 1971 showing the creative sculpture power devoted to the Workers.

40 gr. — Worker's head per X. Dunkowski.
40 gr. — Founder per X. Dunikowski
60 gr. — Miner per M. Wiecek.
60 gr. — Harvester Woman, per S. Horno-Poplawski.

Rotogravure printed on chalky paper in sheets of 50 by P.W.P.W. Warsaw. Designed by Jerzy Walter Brzoza. Quantity: 6,000,000 sets.

K-LINE PAGES
FOR
POLAND



SUPPLEMENT #15, 1970
$2.10
plus 35c postage
(to Members of Polonus only)
Write us for a special price on complete Poland pages
K-LINE PUBLISHING, INC.
Geo. C Kobylka
Box 159, Berwyn, Ill. 60402

POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIEY
Thomas J. Gobby, Secretary
5713 Warwick, Chicago, Ill. 60634
Al Rybarski, Treasurer
2435 First Av., River Grove, Ill. 60171
Chester A. Schafer, Editor
864 N. Ashland, Chicago, Ill. 60622
Lester Jankowski, Publications Chrm.
7303 Kildare, Lincolnwood, Ill. 60646

The Polonus Philatelic Society is non-political. Views expressed by authors of articles appearing herein do not necessarily express the views of the Polonus Philatelic Society.

— Annual Dues are $2.50 —

IN MEMORIAM

EDWARD F. KEYS
Beverly Hills, N.S.W.
Australia

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Friday, September 24, 1971 —
Business Meeting at the St. James Clubroom, 2424 N. Mango Ave. at 8:00 p.m. POLPEX 1962 plans to be announced.

Friday, October 8, 1971 —
Regular Business Meeting at St. James Clubroom. 8:00 p.m.

Friday, October 22, 1971 —
Progam meeting to be announced.

KRAKOW ISSUE BOOKLET

The response to the appeal made in the last issue of the "Polonus Bulletin" was rather small. We repeat again:

If you intend to buy by Dr. Kamienski's proposed 100 page booklet on Poland's Krakow Overprints for the pre-publication price of $10.00 (regular price will be $15.00), please send a card or letter telling us so. Mail it to Al Rybarski, 2435 First Ave., River Grove, Ill. 60171.

If you collect Krakow Issues, then it's a must for your philatelic library.